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Current Support Brief

CONSTRUCTION OF F-CLASS AND J-CLASS SUBMARINES
IN SUDOMEKH SHIPYARD NO. 196, LENINGRAD
1 JANUARY 1957 - 31 DECEMBER 1963



CIA/RR CB 64-10

February 1964

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Office of Research and Reports

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W A R N I N G

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CONSTRUCTION OF F-CLASS AND J-CLASS SUBMARINES
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The first appearance of the new Soviet J-class diesel-powered cruise-missile submarine in September 1963 raised speculation about where this submarine was built and the size of the program. The appearance of a new diesel-powered submarine some 8 to 10 years after the start of design and construction of nuclear-powered submarines in the USSR provides a further indication that the USSR does not intend to shift completely to production of only nuclear-powered submarines as did the US in 1956 when it awarded the last construction contract for building a diesel-powered submarine.

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[REDACTED] one of the two assembly lines in the shipyard was diverted from production of the F-class diesel-powered torpedo-attack submarines to the assembly of the J class. The assembly of the F class continued on the other assembly line, and there are at present no indications that this line will be switched to production of the J class. The construction of both types at one time suggests the continuation of production of this shipyard at a rate of two or three of each class per year.

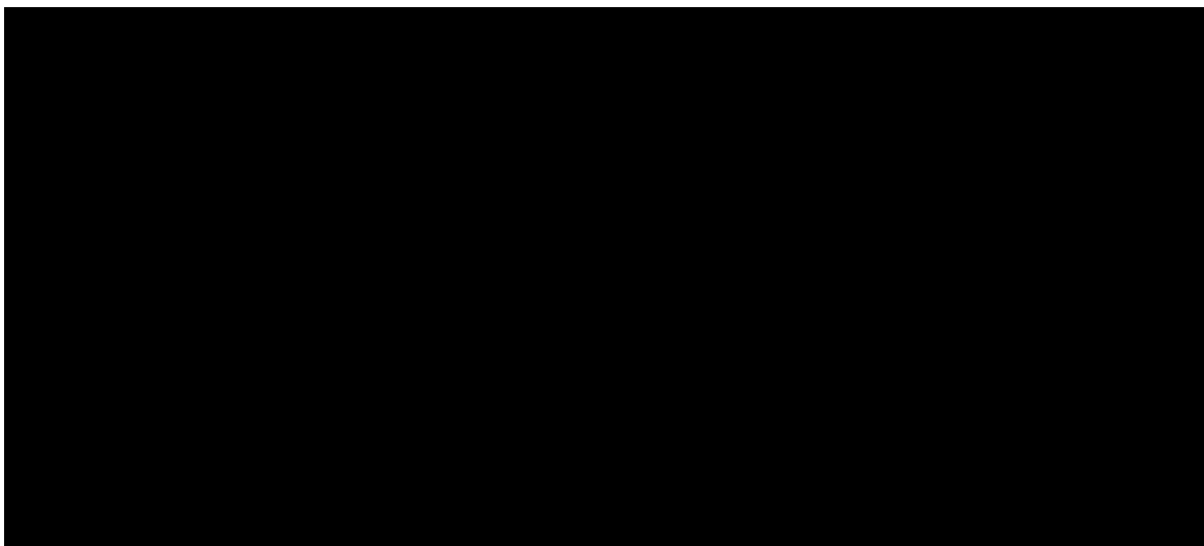
It is too early to estimate the effect of the J-class program on other programs for production of diesel-powered submarines or to estimate a size of program; however, the rate of production at Sudomekh suggests two possibilities: (1) the J class also is being produced elsewhere in the USSR, thereby providing a sizable fleet in the near future, or (2) the USSR will be content with a small fleet, built up over a few years from production at the Sudomekh Shipyard alone. There is no evidence at this time that points to either of these possibilities as the more likely.

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It is now estimated that 28 F-class and 3 J-class submarines had been launched at the Sudomekh Shipyard by the end of 1963. Of these, 27 of the F class and 1 of the J class had been completed.

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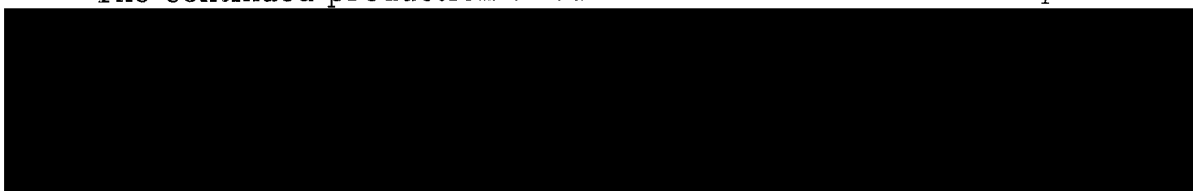
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25X1B The introduction of the program for the J class appears to have had the effect of slowing down the rate of production of F-class submarines as would be expected. The staggering of construction on the two ways permits cadres of workers skilled in specific operations to alternate between the two ways. Undoubtedly, much work in both the F and the J classes is identical or nearly so, so that alternating the work crews still is advantageous.

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The continued production of submarines at Sudomekh is expected.

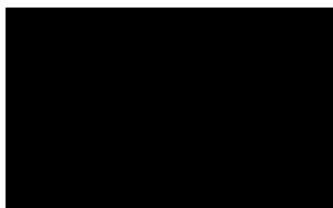


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The pattern of construction of both the F and the J classes during 1963 gave no indication of a cessation of these programs.

Analyst:

Coord:



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* See the chart. An earlier analysis of construction of F-class submarines at Sudomekh Shipyard was reported in CIA/RR CB 60-34, Construction of F-Class Submarines in Sudomekh Shipyard No. 196, Leningrad, 13 June 1960, SECRET.

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18 February 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Dissemination Control Branch, DD/CR
FROM : Chief, Publications Staff, ORR
SUBJECT : Transmittal of Material

It is requested that the attached copies of CIA/RR CB 64-10,
Construction of F-Class and J-Class Submarines in Sudomekh Ship-
yard No. 196, Leningrad 1 January 1957 - 31 December 1963, February
1964, Secret, be forwarded as follows:

State, INR Communications Center,
Room 7818, State Dept. Bldg.
For Embassies in Moscow and
London

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Attachments:

Copies #187 - #188 of CB 64-10

cc: CGS/RB

ACTION COMPLETED

The dissemination requested by
this memorandum has been completed;

BY: *NDG*

Date: *20 Feb 64*

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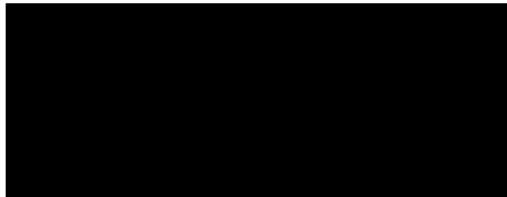
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28 January 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Publications Control Staff, ORR
THROUGH: Chief, Military-Economic Division, ORR
FROM: Chief, Naval Systems Branch, D/M
SUBJECT: Source References for CSB 54.5099,
"Construction of F and J-Class Submarines
in Sudomekh Shipyard, No. 196, Leningrad"

No source material higher than SECRET was used in the
subject project. The data used in this report was not based
on NO FOREIGN DISSEM material.

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